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EXPERIMENTALL
DISCOVERIE OF
SPANISH PRACTISES.

OR
THE COUNSELL OF A
well-wishing Souldier, for the good of
his Prince and State.

WHEREIN
IS MANIFESTED FROM KNOWN
experience, both the Cruelty, and Policy of the
Spaniard, to effect his own ends.

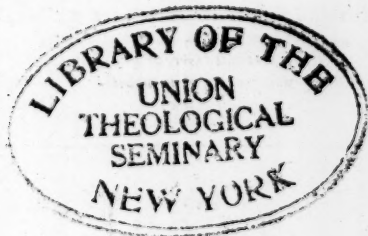
CHIEFLY
Swelling with multiplicity of glorious titles, as one
of the greatest Monarchs of the earth, that being admired of
all, his greatnesse might amaze all, and so by degrees
seeking covertly to tyrannize over all. When
as indeed and truth, the greatest part
*of his pretended Greatnesse is but a
windy crack of an ambi-
ous minde.*



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The Publisher to the Reader.

Gentle Reader, although in respect of the Authors absence, the Copie now presented be not so compleat throughout as it should; yet because (as we say in the proverb) Delayes are dangerous, specially in matters of moment; and hoping it is not materially defective in any thing, from the perfectest Copie or Authors minde, I have presumed to publish it as it is, wishing no lesse good succeſſe, then the Author himſelfe intended; and ſo deſiring my upright meaning may be accepted in good part by the Courteous Reader, I bid thee Farewell.



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A DISCOURSE

TENDRED TO HIS MAIESTIE

King of Great Brittain &c. touching some

*Spanish practises to serue their
own ends.*

THE motiue of this Discourse, most renoun-
med Soverain, which at this time I intend to
handle, for that it hath relation to two ends or
periods, to wit, peace and warre, the one much to be
preferred before the other, as well by divine, as human
Arguments; yet for that the time agreeing with the
necessity, we are in regard of the feare of the Spanish
greatnesse hereafter, which undoubtedly he will attain
unto by the innumerable masses of his Indian treasures,
which are the nerves and sinewes of all martiall in-
tendments, by which faire opportunities offered unto
the greatnesse of his desire, for the enlargement of his
state, glory and renoume, and that there may be no
object that may impediment the let thereof, but onely
a determination in himselfe not to offend his neigh-
bours, I shall hardly beleeu that he will so much differ
from his Progenitors, I mean *Ferdinand*, *Charles* and
Phillip, who raised not the fame of the Spanish Monar-
chie, by just, noble and laudible warres, but by cruell,
bloudy and treacherous invasions, especially against
Princes of their own blood; who under pretence of re-

lieving or giving them aide against the oppression of others, have made these passages of unmovable assurance, for the obtaining of the lands, Crowns and lives of their nearest Allies, which giveth mee no cause of hope of his good dealing towards your Highness, and the States, who are neither allied unto him by blood, as these former Princes were, nor tyed unto him by the offices of Confederacie, whereby for former good turnes received, hee might let you live in peace: but contrarily, wee being onely the stop of the Spanish fury of this part of the world; and a Nation who have not onely given him infinite disgraces, as well by open battell, as sundry invasions and incurfions, made upon his frontier Townes and Territories, to the irrecoverable dishonor of the Spanish people, and unmasking his former forces to all men; which indeede are but a meere shew, and frightening them onely; knowing their Greatnesse depends with filling the world with an imagination of their Mightinesse. For the Spaniard may well be compared to a drumme, or emptie vessell, that being beaten upon, makes a great and terrible noise; but come nearer them, breake them and looke into them, and there is nothing within can hurt you. Or rather like the Asse, that wrapt himselfe in the Lyons skinne, and marched a farre off, to strike terroure into the hearts of the beasts; but when the Fox drew neare, hee not onely perceived his long eares, but likewise discovered him and made him a jest to all the beasts of the Forrest. So that I inferre (most gracious Soveraigne) that unlesse hee now prevaile with you, and by that means gaine a peace to make himselfe more strong for a sifter time

time to hunt you and your neighbours; his forces at this time, in respect of you and your Confederates, are so weake and resistable, as it may well appeare unto your Highnesse, that his Monarchie is rather maintained by Opinion then Might; as it hath ever stood since the losse of the low Countreies (if it had bene with iudgement exquisitely looked into) rather by giving out greater rumours of power, and by lecrecie, then by the greatnesse of their owne forces. So as to make this Shadow a Substance, whereby not onely his Indies should be sure, but all the world tremble at his greatnesse. What oath is it that hee would keepe? What condition that hee would not breake? Or, what opportunitie that hee would let slip for the accomplishment thereof, if thereby hee might assure himselfe of the Ile? And therefore, though I commend peace before warre; yet if the Countrey cannot obtaine a good peace without a warre, I thinke it consequently followes, that it is necessary for you to make a warre with your enemy, whilest you haue the advantage in your hands, whereby you may lay a foundation of a sure peace for your Selve, Posteritie and State for after ages; rather then to dreame of a peace which shall no longer hold, then hee is able by breaking to revenge. For doubleesse in the preservation of Kingdomes; it is no injurie to doe that to your enemy, which hee would doe unto you, if hee could. And therefore those Princes, States or people whosoever, that shall build so firmly upon the condition of peace to be kept by the enemy, the breach whereof may turn to his or their great danger or destruction; that Prince, State or people, in my opinion haue either little

the judgement of themselves, or are ill advised of the Councell: Securitie of their owne estates, or too much fidelity to others, haue not onely been the destruction of many families, but likewise of great and potent Kingdoms, Provinces and Townes. And therefore to this day, there could never be found so great safetie to private men or publique States, as mistrust; as appeareth by *Demosthenes* in his second to the Athenians against *Phillip of Macedon*. There are (quoth he) devised many strengths and defences for the maintenance of Cities and Townes, as Trenches, Walls, Ramparts, Dikes, Bulwarkes, and such like, the which are made by mens hands, with great cost and charge: but nature (saith he) hath giuen to all wise men a common defence and safeguard; the which as it is profitable to all men particularly, so it is a most wholesome and sure holde and fortresse, to all Countreies and Cities, against all manner of tyrannie, and what sortes to mistrust, that which if it be well and surely kept, it will preferue and keepe you all. And therefore to prevent danger in a convenient season, and to provide in time against the worst, is a thing most wholesome, necessary, and worthy of greatest commendations. For as foresight makes men wary, so confident suspicion helpeth judgement, and bringeth to light many hidden practises: and those that doe not feare the complots of their enemies, nor regard of forces preparations against them, are doublelesse neere some disastrous fortune, or extreame ruine of their estates and fortunes.

How prejudiciall their treaties of peace haue ever
been

beene to such Princes or States with whom they haue
 contended, is most evident, as well to us, as other
 Nations, as appeares by their *Armado* in 88, who
 came with fire and sword to cut the throates of the
 people of this land: (had not God prevented their
 treacherous resolutions.) At the selfe same time
 they had entertained us with a maine shew of a desire
 of peace, and our Commissioners being with them
 for the same purpose. As also when *Ferdinand* of
Aragon the last, and *Phillip* Archduke of *Austria* were
 in treatie of marriage of Madame *Stawdij* of *France*,
 with *Charles* the fifth; and after was concluded, (sworne
 and confirmed at *Blois*, the King of *France* being
Lewis the twelfth; his Lieutenants mistrusting no-
 thing in respect of the premises, the *Spaniards* set
 upon them, defeating two *French* Armies, the one at
Calabria, under the conduct of the Lord *D Aubigney*;
 the other at *Cernigolt*, led by the Duke of *Nemuers*;
 by which treacherous overthrow of these two no-
 ble Captaines, by *don Consolia de Cordus*, called the
 great Captaine Commander of the *Spaniards* in these
 parts: they arrested from the *French*, most of the
 peeces in *Italy*, which they keepe vntill this day. And
 therefore howsoever other men be opinionated of
 the Spanish faith and fidelity with your Majesty and
 State, yet for my part, I will thinke of them, and
 their promises, as a Noble man of *Athens* thought of
 " a certaine Oratour. Your wordes (quoth he) my
 " friends are like the Cypresse, which although great
 " and high, beare no fruit. And truly, as they are
Spaniards I cannot well blame them; for they well
 know, that the Crowne of *Spaine* is at stake, and all

the Indies, and his other Signiories, and therefore will not faile to put in practise all tricks that may win the game, though it be by foule play. For if he haue not peace with *England* at this time, it is not unknowne unto him that the foundation of his Monarchy will be shaken in peeces, And we cannot but see this, and yet will take no advantage thereof, whereby we may secure our selues both for present and future times; we may be compared to the *Athenians*, of whom I haue spoken before, who by *Titus Livius* report were men, *who knew what to doe, but would not doe it*: which is a fault so ominous to all states, that it not onely presenteth it selfe against; but likewise followeth disasters and ruine to the Commonwealth that refuseth. For opportunitie doth not attend upon Captaines and Councillours pleasures, but sheweth it selfe on a suddaine; and if not embraced, passeth away without returning: And therefore the advantages that one State, that are enemies hath of another, happen so seldome to the Globes, as *Saturn* finisheth his course but in 30 yeares. But our enemy is free, and I speake it to his honour, from this base and earthly resolution; for it is reported of them, by this speciall vertue, they haue raysed their state to so high a pitch: which is, that no people can readier finde the occasion, or sooner take, or resolute it, when it is offered. And doubtlesse, to say the truth, I am much more fearefull of the *Spanish* proceedings, for that he goeth by precedent: which is an excellent kinde of discipline, as well in Martiall as ciuill actions; especially when the action is grounded upon a sure foundation. And as all Kings
and

and Captaines which desire to attaine to great things,
doe imitate some one Prince, or Generall that hath
preceeded them : so doubtlesse haue the Kings of
Spaine for these many yeares, imitated in all their
actions (as neere as the time and States with whom
they haue contended would giue them leaue) that
noble, valiant and politik Captaine *Phillip* of *Macedon*,
who indeede laid the foundation of his sonnes Monar-
chy, and this was his Maxime, That where force could not
prevail, he alwaies used bribes and mony to corrupt the prin-
cipall of the inhabitants: Insomuch that at a certaine time
at the assault of a Citie, which to a Captaine of his
seemed impregnable, and therefore thought to di-
vert his purpose in the besieging thereof. Thou art
“a foole (quoth hee) for I will haue this great Citie,
“notwithstanding the walles and ramparts, if the
“Gates be so big that an Ass laden with golde can
“but enter. And questionlesse, if your Majestie
would but search into the *Spaniards* proceedings,
since hee had the Indies, you should acquaint your
selfe with many such presidents of their part, to bee
a warning to you to looke at this time advisedly to
your owne safetie, lest you fall into the like misfor-
tunes. And although I could alledge many which
(for brevities sake) I omit, yet I will recite one (lest
it should be thought I knew none) which is, viz.
“When *Ferdinand* of *Aragon* saw, by the sword hee
“could not get the countrey of *Ronsillon* and *Perpig-*
“*nan*, out of the hands of *Charles* the French King,
“which as they say had beene ingaged to *Lewis* the 11,
“he fell to practise with them of Religion; wherefore
“hee corrupted with a great summe of money one

“*Oliver Maillandor*, as some say, *John de Madron* a
 “Franciscan Frier, Confessor to the Lady *Brawnne*
 “the Kings sister, who vnder the roote of Religion,
 “cloaking his hypocrysie and couercousnesse, per-
 “swaded this simple Lady, that unlesse restitution
 “was made of those Territories to the King of *Spaine*,
 “his goverment could not prosper, nor please God;
 “she being moved in conscience with this Friers
 “perswasions, brake this matter to *Lewis* of *Amboise*
 “Bishop of *S. Albie*, the Kings Schoolemaster, who
 “together with her, so terrified the Kings conscience,
 “that hee not onely made restitution of the said Ter-
 “ritories, by the said Bishop, but likewise freely re-
 “leased to the King of *Spaine*, the said *Ferdinand*, all
 “the money that *Lewis* his father had paid for them:
 “Marry with condition, that the said King and his
 “Successors should ever loue and honour the King of
 “*France*, that he should make no warres against it,
 “nor aide with money, victuals nor counsell, any ene-
 “mies thereof, nor permit them to haue passage
 “through their Dominions. And thus were the
 “Countries restored to the Frenchmens grieve. But
 “the French King misreckoned himselfe in the *Spa-*
 “*nish* fidelity, for having occasion to warre in *Italy*
 “shortly after, he was no sooner past the Mountaines,
 “but the King of *Spaine* forgot all his kindnesse, and be-
 “gan to practise a league with his enemies. So as I in-
 “ferre (mighty Prince) that either by shew of Religi-
 “on, or subtle and sophisticall Arguments; or in desire
 “you haue to trust some about you, on whose shoul-
 “ders ever (in regard of your opinion of their wise-
 “domes and fidelities) you cast your selfe, and your
 care

care of your estate, in all, or either of these, you are like without the more grace of God, to receiue disadvantage in this your peace-making (and yet perhaps no fault in them.) For it seemes to me wonderful, that the truth of things being one; yet may falsehood be so apparelled with the habits of likelihood and truth, as (changing countenance) it is often retained in steed thereof. And for as much as upon this Treatie now in hand, not onely dependeth your owne happinesse, the happinesse of your noble Issue, States, Kingdomes, Subjects, or whatsoever else is deer unto you; but likewise the happinesse or unhappinesse of all the Princes of Europe. So (most gracious Lord) in respect of these great and mighty dependances, as well in respect of our owne particular, as generall good of the Christian Common-wealth, which so long hath groaned under the feare of the *Spanish* greatnesse, digest and distinguish every particular; and in a point, in your owne person, without trusting of any man with a matter of great importance : which although it will be very intricate by the diversitie of so many things as will offer themselves to be considered, yet (renoumed Soueraigne) it will be very profitable to your Highnesse, and most acceptable and pleasing to the people, when they shall heare and see the great care the King hath of them and their safety: For as *Commynes* saith, hee thinketh it the greatest plague that God can lay upon a Realme to giue them such a Prince as shall in great things giue his Authoritie unto others, which most especially in such a case as this hee ought to referre unto himselfe. Although I confesse Princes

ought to haue Ministers in all things, especially in great matters, but not to conclude any thing without the Princes assent; nor with him neither, but by the relation of many circumstances, in regard of that affinity which truth and falsehood haue in many matters of great moment. And yet I protest out of my owne opinion, I am no way jealous of any of the Councell; for as for them, I holde them to be all most noble and worthy personages, and fit to manage great Kingdomes, as part of the Indies, and other Seignories: which are as fit for you to take, as the King of *Spain* to keepe; which by your just command and valour of the *English* and *Scottish* Nations, shall be gained unto you and your posteritie; without which, whatsoever your Selfe thinketh, or other men say, neither you, nor your posteritie can ever be safe, upon probable and reasonable grounds, if the *Spaniards* intend to disquiet you, as I will now my selfe proue, and as these following proiects made by the *Castilian* themselves, may appeare, by the necessitie they are in to be
 "Masters of the Ile, *viz.* That a mightie King, determining to preserue his owne, hath no better meanes
 "then by conquering that of another mans; alwayes
 "holding this as a Maxime: That whosoever prefer-
 "veth, getting nothing, neither by keeping his owne,
 "can subdue the will of perverse men, that they may
 "not be able to make him a disturbance. These reasons ought more to prevaile with your Majestie
 "(quoth hee) then with any other Prince, since you
 "hold your great State much dispersed, and the greatest part of your power consists in things moveable
 "and uncertaine, which are the Indian Fleete; which
 neither

"neither Garrisons, Fortresses, nor any good proce-
 "dings can hardly assure ; although your Majesty had
 "great forces and power : as at this present we may
 "well perceiue by this Pirat *Drake*, who with nothing
 "is able to molest the whole world, notwithstanding
 "the provisions which are made on your Majesties
 "behalfse for the preuenting thereof. Wherefore(saith
 "he) let your Majesty entertaine an enterprise against
 "*England*; which both is, and may be the principall
 "disturber of your Indian Fleete and Commerce.
 "Neither let your Majesty suppose there can be a bet-
 "ter or safer way, for the quiet of States, or the ad-
 "vancement of your certaine Greatnesse, then by re-
 "moving this Mountaine of Disquiet to your most
 "high and Kingly purposes, and conquering of this
 "Ile. Asalso *Don Phillip* the second, of *Castile*, having
 "a great and earnest desire to make himselfe Master
 "of this Ile of the world, and perceiuing two obsta-
 "cles to curb his proceedings in that kinde; to wit, the
 "warres of the *Netherlands*, and the lealouse of this
 "State of ours hath ever had of his Greatnesse; and
 "being desirous to haue the fountaine of this happi-
 "nesse to spring from one of those two heads deter-
 "mining to build this resolution, which with most
 "ease, most honour, most safety, and most advantage,
 "might be carried to his after designses. Vpon consi-
 "deration whereof, and mature deliberation, reasons
 "were alledged *pro & contra*, amongst which, in my
 "judgement, some are most preuailent reasons, and
 "such doubts as the Spanish King from the mouth of
 "him who made Reason his ground, and Experience
 "his schoolemaster for what he said, and are following. It

" It is my determination in this present Discourse (said
 " he) to shew, as your renoumed Seigniorie comman-
 " deth me, by way of Reall foundation, that it is much
 " more expedient for that purpose of your Catholike
 " Majestie to moue your warre against *England* then the
 " *Netherlands*, declaring thus much notwithstanding
 " reall foundation in this point, I meane not common
 " principles of nature, or of science, neither of Ma-
 " thematicall demonstrations of this present subiect,
 " is not capable, but rather reasons probably groun-
 " ded upon truth. There are many, who but obser-
 " ving the first view of your Catholike Majesties in-
 " terest to *Flanders* and *England* affirm, that though this
 " Iland by just pretention pertaineth to your Majestie,
 " yet you are so much the more bound to recover
 " those countries of the *Netherlands* rather then con-
 " quer *England*; by how much by all policy, the preser-
 " vation of things already possessed, must goe before
 " things neverinjoyed. But though this be a great po-
 " sition in publike affaires, yet we intreating of mat-
 " ters of State (I) will not judge it of that weight
 " as that it may weigh downe the ballance; which gal-
 " ling the one side more then the other, might im-
 " paire the whole summe and safetie of things. Wee
 " must consider what ought; but farther how it is pos-
 " sible, more profitable, more easie, more expedient
 " to be done: For oftentimes Princes are so pricked to
 " warre by the stimulation of honour, or of their de-
 " fire to some enterprise, as that the bridle of many
 " other circumstances, which would requisitely be
 " considered cannot draw them backe. For an example
 " of this, we may set before our eyes the *Venetian*
 Common-

“ Common wealth, who thinking of nothing else
“ but their dutie to be revenged on the Duke of Mil-
“ laine, preferred immoderate ambition before all
“ other respects; and so, too late, remembred, that the
“ office of prudence, is to moderate passions and spleen
“ in important resolutions: especially when they draw
“ after them a taile or traine of great inconveniences.
“ The consideration thereof, that we are more bound
“ to preferue the things wee possesse, then conquer
“ new, is not sufficient to conclude that your Majestie
“ ought to take in hand the enterprise of *Flanders* rather
“ then *England*; neither in that so importunate affaires
“ should we seeke occasions so light. But to the end it
“ may appeare evidently, that in every respect your Ma-
“ jestie is bound to the enterprise of *England*, I will
“ before any thing establish a foundation to that
“ whole edifice of my opinion, viz. That in subduing
“ of *England*, you overcome at the same time the *Ne-*
“ *therlands* also; but having overcome the *Netherlands*,
“ *England* is not presently subdued; neither doth per-
“ adventure the hope increase that you shall after con-
“ quer it. But I affirme moreover, that to conquer *Eng-*
“ *land*, is not an action more difficult or lesse certaine,
“ then if it were the *Netherlands*. For if *England* doe
“ consequently draw after it the *Netherlands*; and if it
“ be more easie and more secure, who doubteth, but
“ he that should pervert this course, would be a right
“ destroyer of Opportunitie, and so become the forger
“ of his owne disgrace. But I will proue with prevail-
“ lent Reasons, that one and the other member of my
“ foundation, which is, that the victorie of *England* is
“ more profitable then that of the *Netherlands*, & more
C easie

" easie to obtaine. As for the prooffe of my first foun-
 " dation, I betake my selfe to these principall heads.
 " The first is : If the *Netherlands* had not maintained
 " warre so many yeares, but by the aide and succour of
 " *England*; that which hath still supplied fewell to the
 " flames and fire of the rebellion : For if *England*
 " would but taile them, it is cleere, they could not stand
 " ont, no more then a living bodie can be preserved
 " without nourishment; and it is more securely extin-
 " guisht by taking away the maintenance and nourish-
 " ment thereof, then by striving to quench it by his
 " contrary : For having no nourishment at all, the vio-
 " lent heate is used against it selfe, and so by it selfe con-
 " sumed; but we determining to overcome it by the
 " contrary, it may fall out, that in stead of extingui-
 " shing it, the force of it may be much increased, if the
 " contrary be subdued by the same: And therefore the
 " *Florentines* then, and not before, quenched the fire of
 " the *Pison* rebellion, when they tooke away the fewell
 " and nourishment from it, which came from stran-
 " gers, by cutting off Princes their Collegates, and
 " the gaining their Citie in one action; which other-
 " wise all their owne force, and their Confederates
 " would not haue been sufficient to obtaine. The other
 " is; for if *England* with her succours which shee send-
 " deth, not onely maintaineth the *Netherlands* secure,
 " with the bare hope of her shadow: for they count
 " themselues in banishment, as it were, while they see
 " before their eyes the *Spanish* forces; and so would still
 " doe, if they did not know the *English* will alwayes
 " be ready to buckle with any one, that with a mightie
 " Fleete should passe by these parts. In this respect the

Ashe-

“ *Athenians* thought themselves sure from *Phillips*
 “ force, while the Towne of *Ohinton* stood out; and so
 “ on the contrary, when the *Olintons* were overcome,
 “ then saw they no impediments that could keepe the
 “ enemy from them. Even so, if *England* should fall
 “ into the hands of your Majestie, the whole founda-
 “ tion of the rebells obstinacy were shaken, the for-
 “ tresse and backe being removed, by favour of which
 “ they haue dayly nourished the spirits of pride and in-
 “ solencie: so as the soule and spirit yeeldeth, *England*
 “ being taken away; we may perceiue that the conquest
 “ of the *Netherlands* is easily brought forth by the vic-
 “ torie, as her lawfull daughter; and that the end fol-
 “ loweth not the daughter, or as the other being her
 “ mother, but even as inseparably, as the shadow
 “ the body, or nourishment the life. As also this rea-
 “ son which I will now recite, is infallibly grounded
 “ upon the direct rule of Art Militarie: which is, that
 “ you ought never to imploy your selfe in the assault
 “ of any place, if there remaine still at your backe a
 “ a mighty meanes of some disturbance: Wherefore it
 “ is no sound deliberation to fasten first on the enter-
 “ prise of the *Netherlands*: when you leave one ill-
 “ affected on your backe, which peradventure may sud-
 “ denly assail and break through in the midst of the Ca-
 “ tholike Army, in the heart of the warres with the
 “ *Netherlands*. *Charles* the 5, his attempt in *Province*
 “ had unhappy successe, for no other cause but that he
 “ contemned the advise of the Marquis *Masto*: which
 “ was, that first, before any thing he should expugne
 “ the Fortresse. But that resolution being not taken by
 “ *Charles*, was no lesse pernicious to the Imperialists

“ then to the author of that Councell, *Antonio de*
“ *Leua*. An other reason is, attempting the warre up-
“ on the *Netherlands*, you come to buckle with braue
“ experienced Souldiers, and men brought up in
“ warre; as on the contrary, the *English* want Art
“ and Discipline Millitarie. I may giue the same
“ comparison, that may be made betweene Idlenesse
“ and Experience; armed and unarmed: and how
“ advantageous it is to fight with unskilfull Souldiers:
“ Amongst many other; the example of *Melissades*,
“ in the field of *Manathon*, sheweth evidently;
“ who with lesse then ten thousand braue Souldiers,
“ put to flight the force of unhappy *Xerxes*, who
“ had more then ten hundred thousand with him. An
“ other is, that the *Netherlands* must be conquered by
“ handfulls, and haue full, or whole Armies imploy-
“ ed in beleaguering this or that Fort; otherwise per-
“ adventure of no great importance; but as it may
“ be a stop to his course of victory, that goeth about
“ to seiz upon the Countrey. Whereas contrarily *Eng-*
“ *land* hath no strong Towers or Fortresses; as well
“ within as without: there is doubt of that en-
“ terprise, and is much more easie then this; as it is
“ a lesse matter to overcome them that doe not
“ resist, then those that doe fight upon warlike
“ advantages. There is no better example to be pro-
“ duced to your Highnesse, then of the selfe same
“ Countrey of the *Netherlands*, in which, notwith-
“ standing that your Majestie hath placed such
“ strong Garisons, yet at every step such prevailent
“ accidents doe occurre, that oftentimes the Assay-
“ lants are overcome, by the often oppositions that these
“ these

“these Fortresses use to wards them: Even as on the
 “contrary, the Kingdome of *Portugal*, there being
 “no conuenient Fortresses to giue impediment
 “to the forces of the Souldiers, were suffered to
 “enter into the very heart of the land; they being
 “not able to make any manner of defences to
 “defend the same. Another reason is, for that the
 “Fortresses are as prejudicall to the Assaylants, after
 “they haue obtained them, as they were before, by
 “reason the Conquerour is forced to distribute his
 “Army into many members, by which they are greatly
 “weakened. So that, by this that hath beene spoken,
 “it may appear, that it is much more conuenient; nay
 “as it seemeth, much more easie for your Highnes to
 “push at *England* then the *Netherlands*; and therefore I
 “will discourse of that Enterprise, not in comparison
 “of the other, as heretofore I haue done, but in respect
 “of it selfe; manifesting certaine principles, which doe
 “better declare and make manifest the opportunity &
 “facility therof. In my opinion therefore it is a thing not
 “to be doubted, if medicine is then truly so called
 “wholesome, when it hath reference, not onely to the
 “offended part or member, but further to cut off the
 “roote of the euill. And therefore if your Majesty shall
 “enter into the conquest of the *Netherlands*, you but
 “peradventure cure the wounds of that rebellion, but
 “you shall not evacuate the causes of the beginnings of
 “these ill humors, which haue daily sent nourishment
 “to the disease, considering *England* is the place which
 “hath given sustenance to the rebellious States. And
 “though these Provinces were yours of this present
 “disposition; yet what can that be, in a body subject to

continuall suggestion of matter, which in it owne nature presenteth in the stomack some portion of offensive humour: Your Majestie must therefore necessarily assault *England*; to the end you may afterwards either securely digest, or evacuate these concourses. But to discourse more at large of the facility of the enterprise; I deny not truly but that *England* is a very mighty Kingdome; and the greatest Iland that ever we finde any mention made of by the Ancients, seeing it containeth *Scotland* within the same, running 2000 miles in a circuit, although our moderne Writers make a computation of 200 lesse. By Nature it hath beene favoured with a securitie of a wall, or with a rampart, but yet notwithstanding it is most true, that the reputation that that Iland holdeth in warlike actions, is rather grounded on that it was in times past; then that which it hath at this present: and therefore as it often happeneth, the minde growne great, with the bundles of imaginations wherewith it is maintained, though the foundation whereon it dependeth be changed, and diminished: Yet for all that, is the estimation of *England* great in our mindes; because wee all behold it with the selfe same eye of consideration, as wee are wont to doe at all other times; when as innocent, for succession of more then 300 yeares, it possessed *Normandie, Britaine, Guienne* and *Gascoigne*, and made *Scotland* tributary, and for a long time enjoyed the most part of the Kingdome of *France*, upon which *Henry the 6*, was publique crowned at *Paris*. But those that haue diligently observed her, now when shee is deprived of so great forces
 and

"and aide, will judge that shee is greater through
 "the reputation of her ancient fame, then for the
 "qualitie of her present power and force: and that
 "shee is now no more *England*, so grievous and ter-
 "rible to the greatest Princes of *Europe*; and since
 "that with so unhappie a resolution shee fell into ob-
 "scuritie, shee hath been driven of necessitie to sub-
 "mit her selfe to those fearfull things, which altera-
 "tion of Religion and faith draw after them. A most
 "mightie and prevailent meanes to the ruine and de-
 "clination of States. For if Religion be the onely
 "base of all the peoples obedience and loyaltie, who
 "doubteth, but that being removed, all rule of life
 "goeth to the ground; and together all lawes, both
 "Divine and Humane haue dispensation: In which
 "parties, or rather habites, of this most pernicious
 "beast, are most milerable, how much the mutations
 "haue been sudden and violent; as aboue all other,
 "these of *England* haue been, which from the height
 "of Religion threw it selfe headlong into the depth
 "of Infidelitie; from thence rising againe into the
 "Catholicke light from whence it came; and a fresh
 "to fall ruinously into the darknesse of heresie:
 "which is so prejudiciall vnto States, as there is no
 "greater pestilencie, or that more weakens the soli-
 "ditie of their forces. *England* therefore in these out-
 "ragious stormes must needs haue suffered ship-
 "wracke, of which wee may plainly see the effects,
 "if wee doe but obserue: shee hath lost the foundati-
 "on, whereupon no lesse her reputation, then secu-
 "ritie was grounded; that is, shee hath lost the power
 "and authoritie which sometimes shee had in sea-
 "affaires;

affaires; for in times past this Iland maintained a
 great number of Shippes, and kept a continuall
 Fleete of Armes, whereupon it came to passe, that
 minding to trie the strength of her owne force, the
 preparation was admirable; amongst others wee
 may see that when *Henry* the sixth of *England*,
 went against *Charles* the sixth of *France*, with neere
 eight hundred great Shippes, which made a bridge
 over the Ocean: but the qualitie of that Iland is
 so diverse, and changed, that since the dayes of
Henrie seventh and eighth, it hath not been able to
 maintaine one hundred ordinary Ships; which it was
 wont to wey, and haue in readinesse for the secu-
 rite of the State: and further, this Iland hath been
 put to such pinches, that they haue not onely been
 constrained to diminish, but to sell out-right a great
 part of their Shipping, which both was, and is,
 their onely securitie from forraigne danger: so
 much more urgent in Princes is feare of present po-
 vertie, then the respect of their future safetie. So that
 now, comming to resolute on the point of facilitie,
 that your Majestie shall now finde in that Enter-
 prise against this Iland, I will offer to your Highnesse
 two principall heads; the one of the Defendant,
 the other of the Assaylant; whereby I will shew, that
 the assayled is as unable to defend, as the Defen-
 dant is to assaile. As for the Defendant (which is
 the Kingdome of *England*) it may certainly be aver-
 red, that it cannot stand out in defensive ware
 against the forces of your Majestie, if you will
 but invade it with the provisions, which is easie
 for you to compasse, and such as the Enter-
 prise

“prife, and importance of the action requireth, the
“which I will cleerely shew for diuers respects. The
“first is; because, as I haue said, the Ile of *England* is
“poore; and therefore is her debilitie such, as if she
“shoud go about to manage a defensue war against
“so mightie and potent, as your Catholike Majestie,
“thee might as well go about to sustaine heaven
“on her shoulders, being neither *Alcides* nor
“*Atlas*. The second is, for the consideration of
“the necessitie which possesseth there the State of
“*England*, hath no more in readinesse such num-
“ber of shippes as were sometimes maintained for
“the protection and securitie of their Kingdome.
“The third is, that the Kingdome of *England*, by care-
“lesnesse neglected, or by povertie omitted, to
“haue alwayes in readinesse; prepared, or practi-
“sed Men, Armes, or prouision, as all other
“Princes haue, to the end they may be a present re-
“medy to all suddaine insurrections, which groweth
“either at home or abroad. The fourth is, because
“the desire of Innovation is proper to the King-
“dome, whose mindes doe alwayes aspire after
“change; and whosoever doth but obserue for-
“mer histories, will judge that her seditious con-
“spiracies, and every other effect of a disturbed and
“moving minde, haue had their proper nest; being
“stirred up with considerations, which being accom-
“panied with the ordinary disposition of the people,
“to be alwayes attempting of new things, may ea-
“sily of a suddaine, if it were assaulted, put the
“Realme into confusion; especially when the Ar-
“my of so mightie an enemy as your Majestie,

" I shall present it selfe, whereby rebels may liberally
 " discover their hearts without being chastised. So as
 " this people being any way ill-affected, which meet-
 " ing with their manner of disposition, may perad-
 " venture easily giue occasion, if your Majestie had
 " no partie in *England*, which you I shall never fail off
 " to some unlooked for action, if your Catholike Ar-
 " mies did but shew themselves. It being so ordina-
 " ry a matter with that people, when they are masked
 " with some great passion, either of hatred or disdain
 " towards them that governe, that they will be ever
 " ready to take all courses in hand that may be hurtful
 " to him: Euen so that *Tartarus* discontented with
 " government of *Caius Iberius* brought in before his
 " face the *Carthaginians*. First, the *English* in respect
 " of their ancient greatnesse, haue been more accusto-
 " med to molest others, then to be molested them-
 " selves; and when they shall see themselves over-
 " whelmed, as it were, with an innumeration of braue
 " Souldiers and Captaines, they will grow wonder-
 " fully astonied: even as that change of fortunes
 " countenance is a terrible spectacle to those to whom
 " this sight is unusuall: for by that meanes *Greece*
 " which was sometimes Emperesse of the whole East,
 " fell suddenly into other mens hands; who of an
 " Assaylant, became assayed. And lastly, though
 " nature get thus much in behalfe of them, that *Eng-
 " land* be well furnished with Armes, men, victuals,
 " and ships, and whatsoever else is necessary for the
 " warres; yet (say I) all this is nothing, when the
 " qualitic and condition is wanting, which giueth
 " form and essence to all enterprises; which is mony:
 " which

" which the Kingdome of *England*, no lesse through
 " the scarcity of Reveneues, as by the charge of ordi-
 " nary expences is brought unto ; which they shall
 " neuer be able to recover, by their Trades and Com-
 " merce, if the use of the sea be taken from them :
 " and therefore will never be able to supply expence
 " of a defensiu Army Royall, when it hath scarcely
 " enough to supply their owne necessaries ; especially
 " against so great and magnificent a Prince as your
 " most Catholike Majestie, who embraceth within
 " the circuits of your Dominions, the whole Diame-
 " ter of the earthly Globe, and possesseth more
 " land at this day, then all the Monarchs and Repub-
 " liques of the world have : A most opulent Prince
 " in Armes, Men, Mony, Souldiers, Captains, Shippes
 " Victuals, and all other provision of warre : and a
 " Prince, who like a Moderator, or Arbitrator, seem-
 " eth to hold in his hands, the bridle of Empire, both
 " of the sea and land. And wheras it may be objected
 " that the Gallies which doe you no service in that
 " expedition, being vessels of great consequence in
 " battels by sea : your enterprise of *Portugal*, and of
 " the Island, if it did not quite remoue it ; yet did it
 " much abate the superstitious credulity of ours, that
 " those Vessels are not good at any time to passe the
 " Ocean withall ; as if there were no faire weather in
 " that sea in the Summer ; or that faire weather were
 " abortiue in shipping : there is no doubt but that
 " Gallies may securely passe, and hazard themselues in
 " that Sea in the Summer, for three moneths : And
 " those that will object the contrary, by the over-
 " throw of the Sea ther, let them be contented to ob-

"serue well, that the same Anchor met not with
 "no inward, but outward occasion, in the sea of that
 "overthrow : For *Cesar* ignorantly could not dis-
 "cerne the time of the Moone which was then in the
 "full, and being mistaken by reason of her too much
 "humiditie, dorth use to disturb, not onely the
 "Ocean, but all the coasts, and the dominion shee
 "holdeth of the salt waters. And therefore in respect
 "of the great honesty and equitie accompanying the
 "cause; with it so honourable and godly life, as
 "the planting the Christian faith and religion,
 "no obstacle can be sufficient to stay the force of
 "divine power, serving under the standard of
 "Christ; and therefore most weake, and but a
 "shadow shall all humane helpe bee which shall
 "oppose it selfe against the will of the great Ar-
 "bitrator. But such as are the pretentions of your
 "Majestie over this Kingdome, and such the obli-
 "gations wherein you stand bound for the recovery
 "of your owne, the title of a Grandfather and Prede-
 "cessours of famous memorie; as there is no en-
 "terprise so peculiar and proper for you to under-
 "take as this : for that you goe not onely to pos-
 "sesse your selfe of the right which you haue
 "to this Kingdome, but likewise to make your
 "selfe the most famous King that ever was in the
 "memory of all the Princes of the world; adding
 "by this meanes unto the Crowne of *Spaine*, a
 "Kingdome so illustrious, so mightie, and so fa-
 "mous.

By the relation of this *Spanish* project, against this
 State of *England*, most Illustrious Prince, may well
 appeare

appeare unto your Highnesse, that the *Spaniard* himselfe well knowes, that there is no way for the expectation of his further Greatnesse; no great possession of the high Monarchy, which he himselfe alledged that he already enjoyeth, but the conquering of this Ile, and adding it to the Crowne of *Spain*; and therefore, if he had any other meanes to attaine to this, by him so violently longed for, then by a peace: why should not your Majestie thinke, that the peace hee meanes to make with you at this time, is for that purpose, and for no other intent? And therefore, my good Lord, I cannot, as one standing upon the firme land, gaze upon the shipwracke of my Countrie, being so doubtfully tossed, and floring in the dangerous sea of dissention, betwixt peace and warre, with one that will make a peace with you, for no other end and purpose, but that hee may be the better able to make warre heereafter against you. But to cast out the last anchor hold of my selfe, which is boldnesse and freenesse of speech to you (my most renowned Sovereigne) to prevent if I can these extreame and certaine dangers, wherein both your Selfe, your States, and glory of the English and Scottish names, are likely to be plunged, when the *Spaniards* abillitie shall be such, as there shall bee no let, but his good nature, to insult over you: which howsoever your Highnesse, or others, thinke contrary, will in foure or five yeares, if he enjoy his *Indies* be brought to passe. Surely, my gracious Sovereigne, I am of opinion against *Phillip* of *Spaine*, in the behalfe of my Countrie,

as that noble Common-wealths man *Demoſthenes*, against *Phillip* of *Macedon*, in behalfe of the *Athenians*; which no doubt hath much affinitie with our case at this time. For *Phillip* seeing whilst he had warre with *Ashens* (at which he principally aimed) hee could never overcome the other Prouinces of *Thebeans*, *Lacedemonians*, *Theſſalians*, *Ibocians*, *Ointans*, and the rest, and till they were overcome hee could never get *Ashens*, began to take another course: which was, to bribe with mony and gifts, Councillours or Orators of that State to be of his side; and by that meanes to be secure from the forces of that Republique or Common wealth, till he had, by one and one, overcome the rest. But good *Demoſthenes* perceived him by and by, and warned the *Thebeans* of that Treason; but these traitors of *Philips* Faction being grown great in the Citie, by meanes of the bounty they had daily received for rewards of their treason; as also the *Athenians* were then, as we are now, not willing to heare of any warres or change to be brought against them; which alwayes these Traitors joyne with the multitude, in assuring them that *Phillip* of *Macedon* meant them no harme, was the onely cause that all the other Prouinces afore named were overcome; but also the noble and stately Citie by him and *Antepater* his successour. And therefore since that like examples, whilst the world doth last, will bring forth like effects, I will be of *Demoſthenes* minde; if since wee cannot shunne the warres with *Spaine*, either at this time, or hereafter, when he hath made himselfe more strong; either by the conquest of his neighbours, or otherwise: that you should begin with him whilst
you

you haue the advantage of him; and then you shall by prooffe finde how profitable it will be unto you; when you must needs doe a thing, to doe it with a courage and cheerfulness. And forasmuch as there is no man of another minde, but that we shall haue the King of *Spain*, by so much more our mightie enemy, the greater Princes suffer him to be. Oh why be we so backward, oh why linger you oh noble King, the great Commander of the braue spirits of the *English* and *Scottish* Nation, to doe that in reason and necessity you ought? Our fathers, when they were Masters but of one part of this Ile, were never wont to feare any thing in matters of warre, but if the skie should fall upon them, sailed over many a Sea to make their weapons glister in the bowels of other Kingdomes; being by the honestie of their actions and noblenesse of their courage assured: And shall your Maiestie, by whose blessed arrivall to this part of your Ancestors, and having brought home once again in your ship of Vnion, our brethren and kinsmen; no lesse valiant then our selves, being descended from the bloud of our Ancestours, and turned from us by the iniquitie of time, and dissentions of some mutinous persons of either part; which we must not account proceeded by consent of both people; neither measure the intents of great Nations according to the notable wickedness of some particulars? Shall you, I say, who hath renewed again the ancient fame of this Ile (by which, for valour, for men, for munitions, for engines, for warre; no Prince under heaven can lightly compare) be doubtfull to undertake a warre to which you are so necessarily incired; as well for
the

the glorie of God, the advancement of Christian Religion in all parts; as also your particular safetie, which can never be certaine to You, nor us your posterity, but by the abatement of the Spanis h greatnesse, by meanes whereof many murders, massacres, and rebellions haue been made in Europe. No no (my renoumed Sovereigne) be it far from your magnanimous minde, to harbour a thought so unworthy that vertue, that shineth so apparant in all mens eyes; but rather since the nature of the Countries, the inclination of the Subjects, and the valours of the people, doe seeke to overcome the violence of the enemies; let them be seconded by the Kingly command, under which word, there is no question of victorie. Your Predecessours of famous memory, undertooke these warres upon discrete, and premeditated considerations; not onely chewed for many yeares together, but likewise digested by the experience of time, Conclusions of the *Spaniards* part of diuers things against this State, and probability of many more dangers like to ensue, both against the people and countrey: And therefore (most renoumed Sovereigne) if the addition you adde in your owne Greatnesse and Person, to this your right inheritance of *England*, be not sufficient to alter the consideration of your former policies, in my minde; you ought to be well-advised, before you stray from the pathes of your Predecessours, who built their onely safetie upon the preservation of the *Netherlands*, and abatement of the *Spaniards* Greatness, as by diuers excellent reasons, whereupon they undertook openly these warres, may appear. But perhaps it may be said, that the person of
the

the Prince doth alter the pretence of the enemy. I hope I shall need to say little on that point, to so highly wise, learned and judicious a Lord; as your Highnesses especially when it is apparant to your Majesty, that the *Spaniards* build their certein Greatnesse upon no one thing so much, as the ruin and destruction of this land, as by their foregoing projects appeareth. But moreover, if they could not loue the Princes of their blood, race, and kindred; as the King of *Naples, Sicily* and *Navarre*, whom they not onely deposed from their Kingdomes, but likewise some of them from their liues, under no pretence of reason or justice, but onely thirsting after blood and Seigniories, I shall infinitely mistrust his regard of the safety of your noble and fortunate Issue. And if your Majesty will goe by precedent (which is most fit to most actions that doe minister themselves to men) and but examine how the Monarchy of *spaine* hath but raised himselfe to his Greatnes, you shall no doubt perceiue (by comparing time past, with that which is like to follow) the irrecoverable dangers you are like to fall into, by making peace with them, that for advantage will hold it Religion to breake with you. And for that, from *Ferdinand* of *Aragons* time they haue begun to render themselves so fearfull to their neighbours, which as it were yesterday, your Highness may acquaint your selfe with their unjust actions, which are fresh in memory to their unchristianlike wounds, given to many Christian Princes, still bleeding; whereby you may the better discern and distinguish them. For as *Ferdinand* himselfe, which was the roote from whence their Princes sprang, there was no King in his

time more unjust, more cruell, or more bloody, thirsting after blood, and breach of faith with all Princes, with whom hee had to doe; although they were his Cousen-germaines, his brother in law, his Sisters and Neeces; and indeed laid his foundation of the *Spanish* Monarchy upon such base and treacherous foundations: For *Charles* the fifth, how hee behaved himselfe in his time amongst the Princes of Christendome, I cannot more aptly referre your Majestie to a brieve relation thereof, then by an Oration made by a worthy Gentleman, who had particularly acquainted himselfe with the accidents of that time, which hee wrote, and dedicated to the two yong Earles of *Emden* long since. For *Phillip* the second, what blood hath hee caused to be shed both in *England*, *Portugal*, *France*, the *Netherlands* and *Ireland*, is it not knowne to all Christian Princes? Besides, the often seeking of the innocent blood, of that most noble, and thrice renowned Predecessour of famous memory *Elizabeth*, Queene of this land, which if, so it were, there were no other witnesse of his Goatish and Moorish inclination (as there are thousands) were it not enough to enroule and memorize him in the ranke of unworthie and tyrannous Potentates? For *Phillip* the third, although hee be young, yet is hee a *Spaniard*: and whatsoever the wisest of the world haue ever thought of the nature and qualitie of a *Spaniard*, is apparant: For *Francis Guicciardine* (a man so sufficient, as the very reckoning of his very worth and perfections would require

"require a story) saith of them. The Spanisht
 "Nation are covetous and deceitfull, and where
 "they bee at libertie, exceeding outrageous, ty-
 "rannous, and very proud and insolent. And *An-*
 "*drew* . . . a famous Senatour of *Venice*; saith
 "of them; That they are unfaithfull; ravenous,
 "and the most unsatiabie of all Nations. For
 "where is it (saith hee) of all the places of the
 "world, where these infamous Harpies set their
 "seete, which is not defiled with the foot-steps
 "of most abominable vices; and yet the shot of
 "their Pistols doe so dazell the eyes of many in
 "this land, that they are not ashamed to defend
 "them to be the most noble, most faithfull, most
 "honourable Nation in the world. Another writes
 "of them; That they are loathsome Swine, thee-
 "vish Owles, and bragging Peacocks: For (saith
 "he) whosoever would behold the lively porra-
 "ture of them, without troubling himselfe with
 "the overturning of *Martial* or *Terence*, let him but
 "behold the grim speech of a stately *Spaniard*. By
 "whom, most mightie Prince, I may well say, and
 "according to truth, that the world of *America*
 "was not so much unknowne to the former ages, as
 "their monstrous outrageous, and new devised cruel-
 "ties, which these divelish and tyrannous Spaniards
 "haue unhumanely practised amongst the simple and
 "innocent people, as appeareth by *Don Bartholmew de*
 "*la Casas* Bishop of . . . and other of their own
 "Historiographers. And although my selfe, being
 "a stranger, which haue some time served against
 "them, both in the Indies and else where, could say

much of their cruelties, by relation of such their
slaves as I have taken, yet for that my eyes have not
seene them, I will forbear in modesty to charge them;
onely I will relate, from the mouth of a true repor-
ter, a worthy Gentleman of this land, Sir *Francis*
Drake, one truth; that by that, your Majestie might be
inuced to beleue the rest. He once talking with me
“ of the *Indies*, told me, That he being in the South
“ Sea, after he had taken his prize, he had thought to
“ have ventured to have come home by the North-
“ ward, and stood his course to the Ile of *Camer*, be-
“ ing 12 degrees of the North latitude, and from
“ thence to *Aqua Palce*, upon the maine, being 16 de-
“ grees, at one of the poore townes of the Citie of
“ *Mixico*; where going a shore, he found an old *Ne-*
“ *gro*, tyed in a chaine of 20 yards long, which had
“ been condemned by the justice of the place; for that
“ sometimes being oppressed with too much labour,
“ the poor old man would runne into the woods, and
“ absent himselfe from his Majesties worke; his sen-
“ tence was, that he should be whipped, with whips,
“ til he was all raw and bloody; and afterwards being
“ tyed in a chain to be eaten with flies; which poore
“ soule hee released from that miserable death, and
“ took him away with him: And therefore oh *Turke*,
“ oh *Scythians*, and *Tartarians*, rejoyce yee now all,
“ since now, there is to be found at this day a Nation
“ in Christendome, which by the unhappy and cur-
“ sed behaviour, doe increase the hatred that men
“ have borne to the barbarous and ungracious cru-
“ elties. And therefore, most renowned Sovereign,
I should be sory, in regard of the premises, that you
should

should commit so great a fault in the government of the great and mighty Kingdoms, which is not sufferable to a private Captaine over a few souldiers, to say, *I doe not thinke it*: so when hee hath by his owne temerity, or fool-hardinesse, committed an action for want of due respect, to the subjects, undertaken that hath made him disastrous, and unfortunate in his honour, and the times of his people, (which desire rather to giue them received Lawes For the desire of honour to advance States, and enlarge Kingdomes, is naturally grafted in the hearts of all Princes of noble spirits; and there was never any King, of a worthy and high courage, but desired to leaue to his posterity the memorie of some noble and worthy action (as the *American* world) by doing whereof, you shall not onely procure safety to your selfe, and those that shall succeed you in your Royall Seate, but generall happinesse to so many millions of people, which at this day sit in darknesse and the shadow of death; and is a thing so farre from discommendation or reproach, as you shall be so qualified in all succeeding ages, with the most happy, most gracious, and most fortunate Princes of the world. But yet I doe not deny, but Princes may haue such grounds and reasons to trust some private men, or forraigne Princes, as being deceived by them, and they should say, *I never would haue thought it*, yet are not worthy of reprehension: as for example; That Prince ought not to bee blamed, that hath put in a Fortresse some one Captaine; or place, in a Countrey some one Prince, either of which haue received goods or honours from him, and yet in the end is betrayed

by them, and heereupon the knowledge thereof should say, I would never haue thought it, that such a man should haue betraied me, that Prince is not to be blamed; as it happened to *Lewis Morre* Duke of *Millaine*, who having committed the Castle of the Citie to one *Damerdine Couet*, whom he had so absolutely raised, and made obliged to him by infinite graces and benefits; yet notwithstanding was by the said *Couet* betrayed to his perpetuall dishonour and infamie. This Duke was no way to bee blamed. As also your Majestie ought not to be reproued, who providing for every mischiete, is assailed by some strange accidents, that was not possible for your Majestie, in judgement or counsell to foresee, or prevent: as being not possible with reason to foresee a thing, which of it selfe is a thing without reason. As for example, was that most grievous accident of the powder, and other munition, prepared to be sent to diverse places before the Castle gate of the said Citie, which tooke fire, and was burnt by lightning from heaven when the weather was faire and cleere, whereby afterward ensued to the State so many losses and discommodities: upon this occasion, if the Captaine of the Castle should haue said, *I had never thought that this weather would haue brought so great and unfortunate a chance to me*, hee had deserved no reproofe at all. But if before your Majesties eyes, it be apparant, that a manifest knowne enemy to the State, who as *Demosthenes* saith, hates the verie Religion of *Athens*, who hath not onely long thirsted after the Seigniorie of your Kingdome, in his secret designs;

signes, but likewise by open force of fire and sword hath assailed them; If you will trust such an one, and after upon his breaking say, *You would not haue beleev'd that the King of Spaine would haue dealt so with you*: Doubtlesse (renoumed Sovereigne) the world will not faile to taxe you with such carelesse and improvidence, as I hope shall never haue any affinity with your most Excellent Majestie, or any other of your Royall Off-spring that shall sway the Scepter of this noble Ile. And therefore (my gracious Lord) in my judgement, you ought to doe in this, so great a matter of State, as concluding a peace with so dangerous enemies as the Spanish Nation, as good and wise Carpenters seeme to doe in substantiall buildings; which is, to make a sure foundation, lest by aspiring minde or breach of the enemye you be overthrowne. And whereas he saith in the foregoing project, that hee hath right and good title to the Crowne of *England*, by vertue of his Grandfather and Predecessours (which I know to be otherwise) yet contrarily can I proue your Majestie, by the vertue of your Grandfather of famous memory *Henry* the 7, to bee as rightfull Heire to all the firme land of the *Indies*, as the King of *Spaine* is to the Ilands of *Cuba*, *Iannura* and *Hispaniola*, with the rest of the Ilands of *Lucaines*, *Grante*, and *Antile*: and for that it is not inconvenient fully to take notice, and understand how these Kings intitles themselves and their Successors to the right and Signiories of the *Indies*, I have thought good to set downe my opinion, how many wayes they

they doe, or may take their claim : And first by discovery; secondly, by the Pope gift; thirdly, by consent of the people; fourthly, by conquest and consent. So as if neither of these be able to proue or giue a good and sufficient title (or at least such an one as may barre you and other Princes that will, to inhabite in those parts) I know no reason why your Majestie should not doe as he hath done; that is, to possesse as much as you can of those Heathen Countries; especially where the *Spaniard* is not feared; nor hath no command : whereby you might not onely propagate the Christian faith amongst those Pagans and Infidels, as you are bound to doe, as much as you can; but a golden world to the Crowne of *England*: wherby you be more enabled, as well to undertake a forraigne warre against the enemy of the Christian name; as also to make your State the more strong by the *Indian* treasures, against such of your neighbours as I shall envie your Highnesse. And therefore to come to this Title: If he claime his interest by possession and first Discovery (which doubtlesse must be the strongest Title that he can challenge) then your Majestie hath as much title for all the firme land of the *Indies*, as he hath for these Ilands before named. As for proove of this, the Captaines of *Henry* the 7, being *Sebastian Cabot*, and his companions, discovered the lland of the *Indies*, on the north part of the *Indies*, from 60 degrees, coasting the north latitude; the very yeare before *Christian Columbus* discovered the high land of *Dania*, on the south part of the *Indies*; which was the first day that ever the *Spaniards* saw the maine, and tooke possession of that new Discovery in the behalfe of *Henry* the

the 7, and his successours their Lord and Master. So as if first Discovery and Possession be his Title, your Majestie preceding him in that said Title, must necessarily precede him in the right thereof. If he claime it by the gift of Pope *Alexander* the sixth, then it must be argued whether the said Pope had power to giue it, yea, or no; if not, then the gift is void in it selfe: if yea, he must proue it either by Divine or Humane Argument; for Humane he cannot, for that no way belonged to him, or any other Christian Prince or Potentate, at that time; nor were so much as ever heard of, before that present Discovery of *Columbus*, upon which the gift was made in the yeare of grace 1492. All things never knowne to him, or his Ancestors, can no way of right belong to him or them; so as not belonging to him, directly or by circumstance, hee had no right to giue or dispose thereof, either in present or future; and thus for Humane. For Divine Arguments; if he say he gaue them as Christs Vicar, whereby he may dispose of Kings or Kingdoms, he must proue that authority by the word of God, or else we are not bound to belceue him, or thinke his gift of any value. As for example, if hee be but Christs servant here on earth, hee must challenge to himselfe no more prerogative then his Master tooke on him whilst he was on earth; for if hee doe, it is a great token of pride and arrogancie. And our Saviour being but requested to make a lawfull diuision of a certaine inheritance betwixt one and his brother, refused to doe it; saying, *who made me a Iudge ather you?* as also he confessed openly to *Pilate*, That his Kingdome is was of this world. Why then doth

the Pope, who acknowledgeth himselfe to be no better then his servant; take upon him the giuing of so many Kingdomes of this world. But the Pope, say they, gaue *Ireland* to *Henry* the 2, and his successours: and indeed they did so in word; but when had he it? when he had fast footing in it, and when *Dermotus* the King of *Leinster* had made the King of *England* his Heire. But for a lehat donation, had not the Kings of this land, by the sharpnesse of the sword more prevailed, then by this gift, the Popes donation had stood in little stead; neither did the rest of the Irish Kings admit or allow of the Popes Donation; for if they had, they would never haue rebelled so often against this Crowne. But to conclude this point; though we confesse, that the Popes haue done this or that, yet it is no good argument, in my opinion, to say that they did it, and therefore it was lawfull, unlesse they could shew they did it rightfully. But the Popes gift of the West Indies, may well be compared to the Sermon of Iudge *Molineux* his Chaplain in Queen *Maries* dayes; who would make it appeare, by a liuely text out of the Scripture to his Paris hioners, what a lying knaue the diuell was: and for his Text, he took the place where the diuell tooke Christ; and caried him up to the mountain, from whence he shewed him all the Kingdoms of the world; & told him, if he would fall downe and worshipp him, he would giue them all unto him. "My Masters (quoth he) by this you may well perceive what a liar he is; for he had no more right to haue given him these Kingdomes (if he would haue fallen downe and worshipt him,) then my selfe, that am now in the Pulpit. If I should say to you all

now;

"now; Sirs, if you will all fall downe and worship
 "me, before I goe out of the Church, I will giue eve-
 "ry man his Copie-hold for ever; which if I should
 "doe, I should giue you your livings in words: But
 "my Masters (quoth he) that sit there below to
 "whom they belong, would take them from you
 "again: And therefore (saith he) if he had given all
 "these Kingdomes to Christ, the Kings of the earth,
 "to whom by right they did pertain, would never
 "haue suffered him to haue injoyed them. And so for
 that... *For the earth is the Lords, and all that dwell therein,*
he founded and prepared it, as in the Psalmist: and so
 consequently, neither the Popes, nor the diuels, doe
 dispose to whom they please. The copie of which
 foolish donation of the Popes, truly translated out
 of the originall, hath beene delivered to your Maje-
 stie long since, and (I hope) perused before this
 time. To proue that he hath no generall consent of
 all the people and Nations of the *Indies*, appeareth
 most evidently, by this reason; for that no *Spaniard*
 farther inhabiteth northward then *Florida*, where
 they haue but two little Forts or Villages, the one
 called *S. Austine*, the other *S. Helena*: All the rest
 of that huge tract, whose infinitenesse is such, (as no
 mortall tongue can expresse, nor eye hath seene,) doe
 not so much as think there is another world but that
 they themselues inhabite, except some few of them
 which dwell ypon the edges of the shore, that some-
 times see both us, the *French*, the *Dutch*, and the *Spa-*
nyard, when we come a fishing, but are not able to
 distinguish of us, but thinke us all one people: then
 how can we imagine, that these people haue freely

given themselves to the Spanisli obedience, and acknowledged him for their Lord and King, when they never so much as heard that there was such a man or Nation. Againe, from *Capi culli formia*, all the land that runneth and maketh the strange of *Anian*, and the Netherlands thereof, whose bounds and limits are never discovered; the *Spanyard* hath not so much as once feared himselfe to make himselfe knowhe, whereby there might bee any likelyhood that they had acknowledged him for their Sovereigne. And for us to beleue that the *Spanyard* is Lord of such, whom he hath never seen nor known, nor they him, were a manifest signe of a strong faith in us. And there were no way for any man to make me beleue Miracles sooner, then by making me beleue this: for after the believe of this, I should never doubt of any miracle, though he should tell me a thousand in a day: So that if this title come not by consent of all in generall, he neither ought to write himselfe Lord of the whole Indies, nor debat other Christians from conquering or trading in those parts where the *Spanyard* hath neither residence nor Signiory, nor command. If he challenge right by conquest and consent, then must he claim no more, then he hath by conquest and consent obtained. As for example, all that part of the West Indies, which at this day is scatteringly inhabited by the *Spanyards* & *Portugals*, is almost contained in two Tropicks, excepting the two small Villages of *Saint Augustine* and *Helena* in *Florida*, the Prouince of new *Biscay* Northwards, and fise Villages or Townes neere the River of *Plate*, called *Sancto Sprinto*, *Saint Anna*, the

Citic

Circle of *Ascension*, Saint *Fee* and *Fuornan*, lyeth halfe way betwixt the mouth of the river of *Plate*, and the *Miae of Polosie*; and in the South Sea beyond the Tropick, in the Kingdome of *Chelie*, the Townes or Villages of *Coquenbo Perico*, Saint *Jago la imperiella del Lago*. And therefore, if the *Spaniards* haue nothing to doe, any further; either on the Northward or to the Southward; what reason hath he to forbid any Nation to conquer or dwell there? But if hee should admit you, I thinke it not convenient that your Majesty should be so satisfied; for so should you doe your selfe, and other Christian Princes, great wrong: for his Townes and Castles are so divided, and such masses of land and Kingdome betwixt them, which he hath no right, nor dare to enter as being duely considered by your Majestie, hee ought not to claime no more, then he ought to claime the Kingdome of *France*, because his Port of *Graneling* is of one side, and South *Arabia* on the other; *France* being in the midst betwene them; or to claime *France*, because his Frontiers in *Italy* bound it on the one side, and *Spain* on the other; or to claime the Island of the *Venerians* and the *Turks* in *Leuant*; for that *Cicilia* and *Sardinia*, and a few others belong to him, that stands in that sea: Or claime all the Lands or Shoares in *Barbarie*, for that he hath a Castle or two in the *Straits*, and another in *Libia*. These Countries they never lay claime to, because they are in the eye of the Christian world; which would make us rise up in Armes against them for their foolish arrogancy, if they should pretend it: But in the unknowne parts, which haue been familiar unto us, whose light by the

iniquity of the time, and troublesome warres in these parts; haue to us beene hidden, although to the Ancient well knowne, where they began their foolerie. Betwixt the Castle of *Argine* in *Libia*, and the Iland of *Macoa* in the river of *Canton*, in the Kingdome of *China*, the foolish *Portugals* say all is theirs, when many a hundred Kings (as absolute and powerfull in regard of people, as any King in these parts) dwelleth betwixt, and admit the *Portugals* by way of petition or bribes, to dwell in some place by the Sea side, and trafique with them; neither dare they lay claime to any Kingdome, but onely to such Fortresses, Factories and Villages, on the Sea side, as perforce and favour of the Iland they are permitted to dwell in, as most excellently appeareth by answer of *Charles* the fifth, made unto the Embassadors of *Portugal*, anno 1522; when they came to require and beseech him, that his subjects the *Spaniards*, might not trade nor commerce, as then they did, in the conquest or navigation of the *Portugals*; who after a most peremptory and noble answer of his part, told "them he knew no reason, neither would he suffer them, that his subjects should be prohibited freely, to passe into any country where the hope of gain offereth it selfe; and that if the *Portugals* in the cause of their Trade, should doe any violence to "any of his people, either in their persons or goods, "he would be revenged neerer home, meaning upon "the Kingdome of *Portugal*. With which answer, at that time, the *Lucitans* were forced to depart. Which answer, if it should please your Majestie to returne upon the *Castilians* themselues, at this time, I know no reason

reason how it can any way be bettered, having so good a president, as their owne King against the *Portugals*, upon the same subject. But for the *Portugals*, where all their strength is seated, I meane upon the coast of *Malabar*, where they haue more Bortes and Castles then in all *India* besides; the Kings doe so pen and locke them up in their Garrisons and Forts, as they can haue nothing the Countrie yeeldeth, but by their friendship procured by yearly bribes; As for example, to the King of *Cathay*, they pay an yearly tribute of 2,6000 Reis; to the King of *Pimenta* 2000 Reis; to the mother of the King of *Pimenta* yearly 36000 Reis; to the King of *Pargnan* yearly 72000; to the King of *Mansata* yearly 72000 Reis; to *Carto Babua*, the proper name of a man of account upon the coast, an yearly tribute of 42000 Reis; to the *Terasates*, which are brethren and Kings, an yearly tribute of 72000 Reis. All which summes or tribute, are imposed upon the King, and Custome of goods, brought from these parts. As for their credit and reputation amongst these Heathens, it is so small, either for feare they haue of them, or loue they beare to them, that, when wee, and the *Hollanders* pay no Custome for goods bought and sold there, they make the *Portugals* pay 30 per hundred, we going free before their faces, and they paying before ours.

By this, your Majestie may well perceiue, what base account the Princes in those parts make of them there; and yet these vain-glorious Woodcocks, will be very angry with us, if we will not belecue, when they say, that all the *East India* is theirs, and they haue

haue conquered it. In selfe manner (most renowned Sovereigne) stand the Kings of the West Indies with the *Spaniards*, both in the South sea, upon the Kingdome of *Cheley*, *Reta*, *Peru*, and others; as at this time is apparant by the Kings of *Cheley*, who hath within this few yeares beaten down the *Spaniard*, and wonne from them the Towne of *Impetial*, wherein was wont to be placed and maintained one of the greatest Garrisons of the South Sea; and not onely razed it to the ground, but likewise kild and driven the *Castilians* quite from them. Even so, upon the East and North part of the *Indies*, both upon the Coast of *Brazil*, with all the firm land upon the *Indies* from *Parabia* to *Cartagene*, the gulse of *Vraba*, the gulse of *Atexico*, and all alongst the Coast of *Bahama*, even to their Forts in *Florida*, they are in continuall warres with the Kings and peoples of those lands. And surely under your Highnesse pardon, I am confident of this opinion, that it hath been a maine policie of the Kings of *Spaine*, for these many yeares, to keep us in continual warres one with another in these parts; or if not, to encourage us himselve; whereby being forced to looke to our home defences, wee might not haue meanes to discover these his invasions abroad, whereby he puts a maske before all the Princes eyes of Europe. And therefore since hee is now layd open, and by no Nation so much as by your Majesties subjects of this land; I hope, for the prevention of future mischief against this State, as for other honourable respects, and prevalent Reasons, in challenging of that which is your owne; or at least as much yours as his; you will not bee unmindfull

mindfull; which doubtlesse will not tend onely to the enlightning of many soules, which to this day haue late in the shadow of death, but likewise lay a ground (as before said) for the safety and preservation of your States, Glorie, Person and Posterity, in despite of the Spanish treacheries in the time to come, which otherwise by no meanes, by the wit of mortall man can be prevented, as upon my life, by circumstances I will make apparant.

But least this field of reasoning, whereinto I haue walked, be too tedious unto your Highnesse, I will briefly end; referring my Ielse to Argument with any one, against this mischievous and poysonous peace with *Spaine*, which I doe see, cannot but proue very fatall to your Majestie and Commor-wealth. And though I be not called, yet considering I am your subject, I cannot forbear, in respect of my great and loyall affection to your Majestie, the Prince, with the rest of the noble Issue, and my native Countrey, I cannot but presume to speake of such things, which I thinke now fit to be considered; especially at this time: even as *Mercurie Gataner*, Chancellour of *Spaine*, did against the peace that was concluded betwixt *Francis* the first, and *Charles* the Emperour his Master; for he seeing that the Emperour was disposed to make peace with the said King, and to set him at libertie, and that the *Viceroy* of *Naples*, and all other the Lords of the Councell tended to the same; and although he knew, as I doe now, that his counsell would not be accepted, yet failed he not to speake what he thought, but likewise refused, being great Lord Chancellour of *Spaine*, to signe the Articles,

which hee defended with most excellent reasons, which reasons are well delivered, and with much gravity of speech by *Quiccardine* in the oration of the said *Gatamer*. But this event made it knowpe, that the counsell of *Gatamer* was most noble, most just, and grounded as well upon the high wisdom, as great zeale to the loue and good of his Countrey. For as soon as the King was at liberty, all the *Spaniards* wonderfull hopes that they expected of this peace, and all the *French* Kings great promises to them vanished into smoake, according to the opinion of that worthy Gentleman. And I know no reason (most noble Sovereigne) that I being your subject, as hee was the King of *Spaines*, and loving you and my Country, as much as ever hee did his; and having a subject of the same quality, to feare, as he did them; although I may well say, as much more danger to us by the *Spaniards*, if our peace be not built upon a sure foundation, then it could any way be unto them by the *French*. But to speake my opinion, make what Articles you will, and let them be guilded over with the fairest shew, either they, or those of their Faction (if you haue any about you) can devise; unlesse these foure be granted on their part to you, you can never make any sure peace with them; or at least such a peace, as if he haue the minde to breake, hee will haue the advantage of you. And *Phillip* *Comines* saith, That for the many conclusions that hee hath seene in his time in the affaires of State, that it were inexcusable folly for a Prince, if hee were able for to prevent it, to put himselfe under the power of another. That your subjects may haue

have free access to the *Indies*, either to traffique or plant, where the *Spaniards* have neither conquest, Seigniorie, nor tribute. 2. That he doe pull downe all inquisition wheresoever your people shall resort in all his Dominions, and that the Customes be reduced to an ancient order. 3. That he shall never come with a main Army of Ships into these Seas, under colour of chastising the *Hollanders*. 4. That it shall be as lawfull for your subjects, to serve the States in warres against them, as it shall be to serve them against the States; these things accorded, your peace may be safe, otherwise not.

A short view taken of Great Brittain,

and Spaine.

HIS Majestie now is of more power then any his Predecessours; First, because our addition of dominion *Ireland*, is reduced to a more absolute state of obedience, and increase of revinue then heretofore. The footing wee had in *France*, was rather a greatnesse of trouble to us, then of strength; it was alwayes in division; it held us alwayes in continuall fluxe of treasure and bloud, we never attempted in the Front, but that attempted us in the Rear; which did both distract our Armies, and aggravate our charge: It is a Territory so separate from us by nature, as we could not advantage upon it, either for offences or reliefe, without the accessse of difficulty and charge that a State must undergoe, when it runnes the necessity of such an undertaking by sea, where the warre was bent upon a great Conti-

ment, a populous Nation, a plentifull Countrey, and intire in its selfe, and that can be succoured without passing the Seas: In these things we found such disadvantage, as haue beene the undoing of our Expeditions in steed of departure of this broken Dominion we had in *France*, his Majestie hath brought another whole Kingdome to *England*, undivided from us in seate; from whence we haue these benefites. The backe dore that was open in the assistance of our enemies, both to offend us, and divert our attempts from them, is now open to us, and his Majestie hath the key of it; it saveth us the money and the men that we were forced to employ in a second Army for the withstanding the invasion on that side: and not saues it us onely, but renders it, to bestow in undertakings of profit, which we were wont to spend upon defences. We haue another valiant Nation to assist us, whose service in Low Countrie warres hath often, and alwaies, given this testimony of their affection and faithfulnessse, even in Queene *Elizabeths* time; that in every Nationall quarrell betweene us and others (which hath often happened, and very remarkeable betwixt us and the *French*) they haue voluntarily and brauely sided with us, making the danger common both to themselves and us; which was drawn out but particularly against the *English*. The joyning of *Scotland* hath made us an intire Island, which by nature is the best fortification, and the most capable of all advantages of strength, that by Art can be added unto nature; whereby we may at one & the same time be able both to undertake any action abroad, and defend our selves

at home, without either much danger, or great cost. Secondly, by reason his Majesty hath the neighbourhood of the powerfull nation in view, that now is in the world, at his devotion; a people by nature more worthy of credit with us then any other, the use of whose neighbourhood our owne histories will commend unto us. If we enquire of the ages past, even then when they wanted that power and knowledge in their industry, which they now have, as well in matters of peace as warre, the memories of those times will tell us, that we seldom undertooke any great thing without them; in so much as our losse of *France*, may probably be in part imputed to the breach we suffered in their friendship, and though they were then of the same Religion with *England*, as likewise now they are, yet the present condition that we doe both of us stand in, for point of Religion, doth place us in an estate of better assurance with them, then the conditions of those times did; for then considering no main Nationall separation, in the Church Religion was, but a common bond unto them, and inclined them to particular side, where now is both the motive in it to make defence with, against an opposite Church, in such a Nation, as hath drawne both of us into one and the same cause in quarrell, as well of policie, as of Religion: And lastly, their Army is the best Military Schoole of the world, from whence our Land-services may be sufficiently appointed, at least with Officers.

Now for the hearts of our people, and the wealth of our Kingdome (though it may be some

of his Majesties ill affected subjects could be willing we should distrust our owne strength, when wee receive these two points into our consideration) yet for the first; the occasion, whereof they haue derived from our difference in Religion, I may say the wrath of God hath beene evident against them, in the confusion of their plots (One thinks) it should be a horreur to them, for to thinke of attempting any farther that way; for those of them that haue made a covenant with bloud; wee stand not either in feare or neede of their numbers, but we may both spare and suppress them : And farre be it from me to thinke, that many men of those that hold no communion in the Church with us, should giue other Nations the cause to say, that in *England* we the false men, that take up Gods weapons against him, and their owne weapons against themselves, in favour of a forraigne Ambition, that makes the pretence of Religion but a port hole to lay his Artillery out at, or his scaling ladder to assault by. Now the second point touching the wealth of the Kingdome, if I should call the Councell of *spaine* it selfe to giue judgement in the cause, I should neede no better sentence to condemne their opinions, vvhich thinke the King of Great *Brittaine* poore; their Master knowes it vvell enough, he shall finde it otherwise, vvhensoeuer hee shall undertake to attempt us, or vvee them.

Now for *spaine*, his Majestie there, though accounted the greatest Monarch of Christendome; yet his estate being enquired thoroughly, his roote will be found a great deale too narrow; for the top of his

his Dominions are so farre in distance asunder, as they cannot giue reliefe time enough one to another upon an alarm; which is the reason hee is more powerfull to assault then defend, and therefore are compelled to haue continual Garrisons of that charge he is unable to maintaine: he hath more to doe with shipping then any other Prince, and yet hath few men at his devotion, but by extreame charge, and those of worst sorts; his poverty hath therefore appeared in the mutinie of his Low Countrey Armie, for want of pay, which was great cause of his ill successe there; & I cannot see how his estate can be much better now then it was. For though it be true, that his charge is somewhat lesse; yet it is likewise true, that his Subsidies in *Spain* be also diminished; as well in respect of insupportablenesse, as of indisposition of his Revenues out of the *Indies* decayed: And indeed but for his *Indies*, hee were the poorest Prince in Christendome. Now it serues the better for the finding his weaknesse or strength, to enquire whether he be able to stand upon the termes of defiance, and yet hold his *Indies*, I thinke not: for his Majestie of Great *Brittain*, joyning with the States of the Vnited Provinces, is of power to raise Armadoes, the one to blocke up *Spain*, the other the *Indies*; the least successe that may be hoped for out of this enterprise, the cutting off his returne would beggar him: the feare of this project was the thing that stopped his Greatnesse to the Vnited Provinces, when hee departed with his pretence of Soveraigntie to them: and that feare is an Ague he is not yet cured of. This is a right desigine, and a great one, such a one, as I will

wish we had the treasure, and valiant blood of our Ancestors to bestow vpon; for the expence whereof we haue nothing to shew now, but two poore Hands *Barfey* and *Garnsey*. And to say the truth in that case; if all the Ilands or Lands that belong unto the Crown of *England*, were offered to his Majestie, I should not giue my advice to receiue them, much lesse to conquest them. Now for the disposition of the Low Country men, I assure my selfe there cannot be a thing more desired, then they to ioyne with his Majestie in any undertaking; especially in this; for they are forie they understood the King of *Spaine*'s weaknesse so little in *Queene Elizabeths* time; when her Majestie so much affected their joyning with her; and that now they know it; his Majestie being greater in power, will yet suffer such an enemy to all Christian Princes, chiefly to those of his Majesties Religion, to creep into his bosome: For all the greatness he hath, he holds by the curtisie of his Majestie, (and to that end Courts it;) he knowes he were undone else. To conclude, I will inferre some of the Reasons, that perswade to the undertaking of his designe; the policie of *Spaine* hath troden more bloody steps then any State of Christendome; looks into his Treaties, and his Negotiations of his Ministers abroad, you shall finde as much falshood in them, as blood in the other: He never paid debt so truly; as those he imposed in corrupting of the Ministers of other Princes: He holds league with none; but to haue neerer access to doe him harme; a Match in kindred shal not hinder it when he apprehends his advantage: He disturbs all Christendome with his Alarums and

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Armadoes yearly; and yet doth lesse hurt to Infidels and Pirats then any, unless it be to get where withall to arme himselfe the better against other Christian Princes; and he hath his ambition to the whole Empire of Christendome. These are motives wherein all Christian Princes are interested; so as with reason they cannot oppose this designe; nor will. (I thinke the most of them) hee hath brought himselfe into such an hatred with them. Let us, betweene his Majestie and the United Provinces, consider how the particular causes of both Nations doe importunate us both to the undertaking thereof. Who hath been so thirsty of our blood as *Spain*? And who hath spilled so much as he? Who hath been so long our enemy? And who hath corrupted so many of our Nation as *Spain*? And that all with the help of gold, which by reason of the neglect of this Designe he doth still enjoy, tempting our weak ones, and our false ones withall. Would you finde a Traitor on a suddain? *Balaams Asse* will tell you where, at the *Spanish* Embassadors doore? And when? when they come from Masse, and otherwise. When to? when they March with us. For his malice is so great, he cannot hide; nor will God (I hope) suffer it. Yet let us examine in reason: now if we be so charitable as to forget what is past, whether we may promise our selves assurance of his amity for the time to come or not? Because peace with a true neighbour is a condition to be embraced, nothing more certain then the contrary. We cannot promise it his ambition to the Empire, so long as he holds the *Indies*, shal never die. The United Provinces is an Object, which though he hath an eye to, yet hee likes not.

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What other thing soever we communicate with him in, we shall never be assured of him (such is the nature of the Religion,) so long as we differ in matter of faith; he knowes very well the perill he stands in, if hee be attempted by his Majestie and the United Provinces. Consider what suggestions these are to keepe him thinking upon; and imagin then, what his owne part will prompt him to doe vyhen he sees a time for it. He then to the end hurts, that he may not be prevented by the Enterprise. Now of the fittesse and honour of it, to be in that undertaking of his Majestie, who is the greatest Ilander in Christendome, and therefore a Navie most proper to him: He is a Defender of the Faith, as well in understanding, learning and godlinesse, as in title; therefore in the planting of the true Church, there is a sacred worke, that even by office, as it were, belongs unto him: He is of a great liberall minde, the *Indies* will afford him meanes to exercise it. These Considerations, and the great multitude of his subjects, doe seeme to invite him: and in every part, considerably in the Designe, we may finde something to perswade us, that it seems to be a kind of offer, both in Religion, Policy and Nature, presented unto his Majestie, as the Prince for maintaining of it.

FINIS.

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